

U.S. Pat. Appl. No. 10/749,131
Amendment and Response dated August 12, 2005
Response to Office Action mailed June 17, 2005

REMARKS

The abstract of the disclosure has been amended to contain less than the 150 word limit.

Amendment to Claims

Claims 1-24 are pending in the application. Claims 1-15 are allowed. Claims 16 and 18-22 were rejected as anticipated under §102 by Hocking et al (U.S. 6,126,783). Claims 17, 23 and 24 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the rejected base claim.

Applicant has cancelled 16 and has amended claim 17 to include the limitations of rejected claim 16 and is believed to be allowable as amended. Claims 18-22 have been amended to change their dependencies from rejected claim 16 to amended claim 17.

Applicant requests entry of newly added claims 25 and 26 which are variations of claim 17, as amended, and are distinguishable over Hocking '783 in that the claimed injection casing structures specify that the passages within the initiation sections communicate a fracture fluid to a selected weakening line, wherein each weakening line corresponds to one of a plurality of fracture planes.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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